THE COMPETITOR'S MEN REACH PORT FROM A SPANISH JAIL.

ONE. A NEWSPAPER CORRESPONDENT, EMA-CIATED AND BROKEN IN HEALTH-ANOTHER, THE CAPTAIN, HALF PARALYZED AND GRAY-HAIRED-THEY TELL OF THEIR SUFFERINGS, AND A COMPANION DIRECTLY CHARGES SPANISH GENERALS WITH TREACH-

ERY TO SPAIN. Five members of the celebrated Cuban filibustering expedition on the schooner Competitor, who were captured by the Spanish in April, 1896, and have since passed a miserable existence in Havana prisons, for a time under sentence of death, and who were released on Thursday of last week, arrived here yesterday on the Ward Line steamer Saratoga from Havana. They all bore the marks of the fearful trials through which they had passed. They told with difficulty the terrible tale of their sufferings because of the emotion which its recollection, so frish in their minds, caused to them. Tears welled to their eyes constantly, as, sitting in the saloon of the Saratoga, coming up the harbor, they told to the group of newspaper men who had gone to Quarantine to meet them the story of their capture, confinement, conviction and long wait for the carrying out of the sentence of death once passed upon them, but afterward reversed.

THIS PRISONER A PHYSICAL WRECK. The man who showed most plainly the effects of his treatment at the hands of his Spanish jailers is Ona Melton. He is a young man from Kansas, who joined the Competitor expedition in the interests of a Florida paper. At that time he was in robust health, and weighed 165 pounds. Now he weighs 100 pounds. His face is like that of a corpse, his frame is so emaciated that his clothes hang loosely upon it, he has the hunted look bred of long imprisonment, he cannot keep still for a moment, and when talking about his trials he cannot keep the

The man who, next to Melton, shows most the effects of his confinement is William Leavitt, cook of the Competitor, and a British subject. The other members of the expedition in the party were Alfredo Laborde, a native of New-Orleans, and master of the Competitor; William Gildea, the mate, a native Englishman who is a naturalized American citizen, and the steward, Charles Barnett. They were in a fairly wellpreserved condition, except Captain Laborde, who walked upon a crutch as the result of the complete paralysis of his right leg in his imprisonment, and whose hair has turned from black to gray. With these men on the Saratoga was Julio Arteaga, of Quesada, a young medical student from the City College here, who went to Cuba a year ago last January to serve in the insurgent hospitals, but who was captured and, like the Competitor's men, imprisoned and sentenced to death, but finally released last Thursday. There are still in the Cabanas fortress two other members of the Competitor expedition, Dr. E. Bedia and Telgeado Masso, Spanish subjects. The former, it is expected, will be released on the coming Saturday.

Negotiations for the release of all the American citizens connected with the ill-starred expedition on the Competitor have been carried on between the United States and Spanish governments almost since their arrest and were crowned with victory last week when Captain-General Blanco received an order for their pardon from the Queen Regent. It was accomprisoners' release, went to Cabanas fortress last Thursday and at once conducted them to a boat in waiting. They were rowed off to the Saratoga, which sailed that evening for New-York. Vice-Consul Joseph A. Springer, who has six weeks' leave of absence, accompanied them.

THE CORRESPONDENT'S STORY.

The story of the capture of a part of the Competitor expedition, after the rest of its members had been landed, has been told many times piecemeal. The men yesterday gave the first connected account of the affair. Ona Melton told the story as follows:

"When the expedition had been nearly landed on the shore warning of the approach of the Spanish gunboat Messagera was given. The solid shot over our decks showed what fate was in store for us. The small boats were launched, and the seven men left on board jumped into them and started for the shore. We were captured, however, one after another, by boats from the Messagera,

"After being landed we were turned over to the Spanish soldiery. Our arms were tied at the elbows behind our backs and the cords drawn till our elbows touched and our shoulderblades were nearly dislocated. We were taken to a prison near Havana, where we were kept tneommunicado for six days in dark cells. There was no furniture in the cells-neither bed nor chair. We were fed once a day. We were not allowed to see the American consul. Three of us were then put in a cell six feet by twelve, where we were kept for three weeks without stepping out of it once. Then a list of Spanish officers was handed to us from which we were ordered to select one to defend us in our trial for life. We took the first. He came to us, spent just one minute in asking us if we were guilty or not, and left.

THE DEFENCE A FARCE.

"We were tried and, without any defence beyond a short general speech by the officer for clemency, were sentenced to death. We were then thrown into separate cells for another six days' incommunicado. Then began he work of the United States Government in our behalf, and we were removed to Cabanas Fortress, where we have been confined since. I have spent the time in one large room with about forty other prisoners of all descriptions, from the murderer to the thief. The room had one small window and one door. We were never allowed to go out.

never allowed to go out.

"Last Thursday we heard the approach of a file of soldiers and I was told to step out into the corridor. I didn't know what fate was in store for me. There stood General Lee, however, and he told me I was released. What I shall do now I don't know. I have a few friends here, and I shall probably stay in the city for a week."

BETTER TREATMENT FOR THE CAPTAIN. The stories of the other men were similar to Melton's. Leavitt, the cook, said that the prisoners owed a great deal to Vice-Consul Springer, who last Christmas sent them money which they were sore in need. Captain Laborde, it was apparent, had received far bettreatment than the other men, and he said

ter treatment than the other men, and he said that the stories of extreme cruelty practised in Spanish prisons were unfounded. The warden of Cabanas Fortress, Matteo Fernandez, according to Captain Laborde, is a kind man, and is generally known as "father." The captain said: "We knew about everything that was going on in Cuba in the Cabanas. We had New-York papers and sources of information which were invaluable to us "Yes, American gold goes a good way with the unpaid, miserably clothed and fed Spanish guards. When I was captured I had cords bound about my wrists, a stick inserted and twisted like a tourniquet till the flesh was cut through to the bone. This is a 'Spanish wind-lass.' My crutch I spent weeks in whitting out of a broken stick with a knife. Our food, the potage, given to us at first once, but later twice a day, consisted of rice and a little meat mixed

GENERALS ACCUSED OF TREACHERY. The young medical student, Arteaga, made some serious charges against two Spanish generals in Cuba, only one of whom he was willing to name. He said: "I was captured in the Province of Pinar del Rio, where I was working in the hospitals. I was bound, laid on my stomach and beaten with the flat of a sword to make me tell where the insurgents had stored their dynamite. I didn't tell. I was taken to Artemesa, and have only recently been tried, and on the fourth of this month was sentenced to death.

"There is a story behind my pardon. There were two Spanish generals—one a brigadier, whom I do not care to name, the other General who were prominently concerned in my These men are either base cowards or their desire to retain their places has over-come all their scruples. They knew I had discome all their scruples. They knew I had dis-closures to make which would ruin them. They thought that if I went to my death I would ex-pose them. This is what I saw with my own pose them. This is what I saw with my own eyes. They exchanged letters with the insurgent leaders, which arranged that the Spanish soldiers in the districts which they controlled should not be attacked. In return the insurgents were to be allowed to pass and repass that redoubtable trocha as often as they pleased. Thus was the communication between

Gomez, Maceo and Garcia, the mystery of which has amazed the world, carried on." None of the men who arrived yesterday have made any plans for their future.

PEACE OFFERINGS REJECTED.

GENERAL BLANCO'S ATTEMPTS TO NE-GOTIATE WITH THE INSURGENTS.

SENDING AGENTS TO WELL-KNOWN LEADERS OF THE REBEL ARMY WITH OFFERS OF MONEY AND PLACE AND AUTONOMY FOR CUBA

-HIS PROPOSITIONS DECLINED. Havana, via Key West, Nov. 22.-General Pando started by train from this city on Saturday last in order, according to official announcement, to take charge of the campaign against the insurgents. He was accompanied by his full staff and was escorted by a company of artillery. It is stated on good authority that General Pando has been commissioned by Marshal Blanco, the Captain-General, to enter into communication with the insurgent leaders with

the view of arranging for peace, This is not mere surmise. It is a statement based on an accurate knowledge of all the facts in the case, and General Pando did not leave this city until he had taken steps calculated to further the object which Marshal Blanco has in view. General Pando, after a consultation with the Captain-General, first brought about the release from confine eral, first brought about the release from comme-ment of Damian Caballero, who had been im-prisoned on the Isle of Fines for some time past, for, it is alleged, acting as a spy for the insurgents and bringing about the disaster suffered by the Spanish troops at the battle of Cacao, Province of Spanish troops at the battle of Cacao, Province of Santiago de Cuba. General Pando furnished Damian Caballere, who is the godfather of Rabi, the well-known insurgent leader, who is looked upon as being the backbone of the insurgent movement in the Province of Santiago de Cuba, with a considerable sum of money and caused him to be landed at Manzanillo, Province of Santiago de Cuba, where a good horse was placed at his disposal. General Pando's peace emissary was also furnished with official documents empowering him to act in

behalf of the Spanish commander. AN EMISSARY SENT TO RABI.

From Manzanillo, Caballero made his way secretly to the Jiguani Hills, where General Rabi has his headquarters. Jiguani is not far from Bayamo, which is connected by rail with Manzanillo, and which is connected by rail with Manzanillo, and Bayamo is about half way between Manzanillo and Holguin. The latter place is connected by rail with the port of Gibara, on the northern coast of the Province of Santiago de Cuba. Manzanillo is situated on the Great Bay of Buena Esperanza, on the eastern coast of Santiago de Cuba. General Pando instructed Caballero to offer General Rabi a birth rank in the Spanish army and a large sum a high rank in the Spanish army and a large sum of money to be distributed among the other insurgent leaders of that part of Cuba, and, in addimediately be sent away from the island and ordered never to return. Consul-General Lee and the British Consul, with the order for the lero was instructed to inform the insurgent leaders that the Spanish authorities undertook honestly to establish the new autonomist regime if the leaders of the insurgents would accept the propositions made to them.

Although Caballero has not returned from Santiago de Cuba, confidential advices which have reached the Spanish officials here seem to indicate that Caballero has so far been unsuccessful. is added that previous to leaving Manzanillo for the interior of Santiago de Cuba the agent of General Pando obtained a letter of introduction from a well-known merchant, Senor Soils, of Man-General Pando obtained a letter of from a well-known merchant, Señor Solls, of Manramillo, to General Du Valon, the French leader
of the insurgents, with the view of inducing the
latter, as well as Rabi, to enter into negotiations
with the Spanish authorities looking to a peace
settlement and the acceptance of the autonomist
form of Government proposed by Spain for Cuba,
Capaliero, in due course of time, arrived safely
at the camp of General Rabi, where the insurgent
leader had been supporting Cabaliero's family
while he was in prison. But the arguments of
General Pando's agent have not, apparently, had
the effect hoped for by the Spanish authorities; for,
it is understood, General Rabi has replied that he
believes a successful ending of the war in favor
of the insurgents is approaching, that the Cubans,
of the insurgents is approaching, that the Cubans,
of the aid of the United States, will gain their
independence, and that, therefore, he prefers to
continue fighting the Spaniards until the final victory is won.

continue figures.

tory is won.

There seems to be no intimation as to the result
There seems negotiations with General du Valon,
of Caballero's negotiations with General du Valon,
although it may be judged, from the attitude assumed by General Rabi, that the peace negotiations
sumed by General Rabi, that the peace negotiations
are likely to fall flat in Santiago de Cuba.

NEGOTIATIONS WITH EX-INSURGENTS. General Pando, in the mean while, acting after consultation with Marshal Blanco, has put other trons in the fire in the hope of prevailing upon the insurgents to come to terms. He has been and is insurgents to come to terms. He has been and is insurgents to come to terms. He has been and is still in negotiation with three former leaders of the last Cuban revolution, and has been endeavoring to induce them to go to different insurgent camps for the purpose of using their influences to bring about peace, on the promise of Cuba receiving a really autonomous form of Government. These three former leaders of the insurgents were also offered money for themselves, and were to have been furnished with large sums of money to distribute among their friends. It is understood they were reluctant to become the agents of General Pando, alleging as their excuses that they had no influence with the insurgent leaders of the present day, and that they would be risking their lives if they ventured into the insurgent camps. Nevertheless, two of them were induced to start for Manzanillo in an effort to induce the insurgent leaders of Santiago de Cuba to arrange for peace on the basis of autonomy for Cuba.

In some quarters it is believed that this reluctance to accept the overtures of General Pando is due to the fact that the insurgents are anticipating some strong step in their favor when the United States Congress meets.

General Pando, although somewhat disappointed, will, it is understood, continue his efforts to come to an understanding with the insurgents. The millary authorities believe the hest way to do this would be to inflict upon the enemy a signal defeat, which General Pando hopes to accomplish. On the other hand, it is believed the insurgents have similar plans, though from an opposite direction and with a totally different object in view. If current reports among the friends of the insurgents are to be believed, the revolutionary leaders hope to strike a decisive blow at Spain before Congress meets as an encouragement to their friends in the United States, who are urging a recognition upon the part of the United States Government of the belligerency of the insurgents of Cuba. still in negotiation with three former leaders of the

MARSHAL BLANCO NOT HOPEFUL

A statement made by Marshal Blanco shortly after his arrival here is being much commented upon. It seems that when the Superior of a religious order, living at Guanabacoa, near this city, called upon the new Captain-General, in order to welcome him to Cuba, Marshal Blanco, in the course of the conversation which followed, said: "Only Divine Providence is able to save Cuba." Whereupon the priest retorted: "If we must condide only in Divine Providence, "If we must condide only in Divine Providence, said have no other means to conquer the insurgents, then we are lost."

The sympathizers with the insurgents have been making considerable capital out of this incident, saying that the remark of the Captain-General indicates that he has no faith in the success of his mission. his arrival here is being much commented

mission.

Further proof of this state of mind upon the part of Marshal Blanco appears to be furnished in a statement which is attributed to him when he replied to the welcome of the Merchants' Association. Upon that occasion the Captain-General is said to have asserted that Spain could keep up the fighting until after April next, and that if by that time the Spaniards were unable to restore

(Continued on Fourth Page.)

HOME WITH A PITIFUL TALE. with water, I shall begin a suit for damages "BIG HAWLEY" CONVICTED. NO SEALS MAY BE KILLED. FOUND GUILTY OF TRYING TO BLACK- AN IMPORTANT FEATURE OF THE NE-

MAIL S. W. BRIDGHAM.

THE JURY OUT AN HOUR AND A HALF-THE DE-PENDANT'S TESTIMONY ABOUT HIMSELF.

William C. Woodward, alias "Big Hawley," was found gullty in the Criminal Branch of the Supreme Court yesterday of the charge of attempting to blackmail Samuel W. Bridgham, a son-in-law of W. C. Schermer-Early in the day the trial came to an end, and the jury retired. The jury, after deliberating on the evidence for an hour and a half, had some questions to ask the Court about the testimony of the experts relative to two letters submitted as evidence. Justice Fursman answered the questions, and the jury left the courtroom again. They returned a half hour later with a verdict of guilty. Woodward showed no emotion when the verdict was announced. He was remanded to the Tombs until next Monday, when he will be sentenced.

The closing day of the trial was taken up mostly by witnesses for the defence. Woodward was the last witness. The prosecution had submitted evidence to support the allegation that the prisoner, working through the agency of a suit for \$100,000 damages, against Bridgham for allenating from her husband the affections of one Mrs. Eugenia Ward, had attempted to extort blackmall, that he was the author of the letter received by Mr. Bridgham signed "Va Banque," and that he and a lawyer named Brown, who is alleged to have demanded \$12,500 to settle the working together in the blackmailing scheme. These allegations Woodward denied so far as he was concerned. He testified that he had never seen the papers in the case of Ward against Bridgham. When they were filed he was in Colorado, he said. He first heard about the case early in May from Detectives Vallely and O'Connor, whom he had met by appoint-

"How do you account for that?" "I think there is some fatality pursuing me, as I have never been guilty of any crime." "You have been abroad, have you not?"

"I have. I lived in London under the name of the Hon. Lionel Musgrove. There I made \$1,000,000. From there I went to Ceylon, where got diamonds worth £20,000. From there I went to Van Diemen's Land, where I was ar-rested three times, once for robbing a bank in London." Continuing, the witness testified that he re-

turned to America.
"What were you doing then?"
"Well, I was doing the trains between New-York and Boston, learning young dudes to play

"Where did you go then?"

"I went to St. Louis, where I was arrested on suspicion. That was in February, I think. After I got out of the jail in St. Louis I got to Washington in time for the Inauguration. There I was arrested for picking a pocket, but I was innocent, as the pocket was picked before I got in the crowd. Then I went to Colorado, where I was again arrested. I got out of that all right, and came to this city. I stopped over in Philadelphia, where I was arrested for swindling a Jeweller, but I also encaped punishment for this."

COMMENDS POOTBALL AND THE THEATRE.

A PLAIN-SPOKEN ADDRESS BY CHANCELLOR DAY OF SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY.

Syracuse, N. Y., Nov. 22 (Special).-The fifteen Syracuse University were sur-James R. Day, the chancellor. Not only the stu-

toward a more open playing of the game. I do not like the hurling of one mass of humanity against another until one or the other becomes exhausted, but I do not feel like joining the universal outery against the game. American people are easily influenced into a general epidemic of re-form, but I think that football has come to stay. It is encouraged by the faculty of Syracuse Uni versity. Football would fail of one of its chief ends, in my estimation, if it did not teach the young man self-control. A man who goes through

young man self-control. A man who goes through a serson of being trodden upon and knocked down deserves fairly a diploma in the art of self-control. It is valuable discipline."

As to the theatre, the chancellor said: "I am told that many of the students attended the theatre and listened to Mr. Jefferson. Now, I am a parson, and my privileges are restricted somewhat. I believe with the Church in regard to the theatre in general. I am sorry that anybody thinks it wrong to see Joseph Jefferson. I believe that such men as he would redeem the stage from any doubtful characteristics." These remarks were loudly applauded.

ELEVEN TO THREE FOR FOOTBALL. RESOLUTION TO PROHIBIT THE GAME IN BLOOM-INGTON, ILL., DEFEATED.

Bloomington, Ill., Nov. 22.—By a vote of 11 to 8 the City Council of Bloomington defeated a resolution to prohibit football within the city limits. The resolution was introduced by Alderman Kirk-patrick, and was championed by him and Alderman Hallam. Alderman Graham was the chief de-fender of the game. Hallam is a physician, and Graham is the acting president of the illinois Wes-leyan University. The resolution was based on the charge that the game is brutal and dangerous and has caused many fatalities. The debate was excit-ing and interesting, and the lobby of the City Hall was crowded.

CONGRESS MAY SIT TILL AUGUST.

SENATOR BURROWS SAYS THAT THE CURRENCY 18 THE MOST PERPLEXING QUESTION TO

RE CONSIDERED. Washii gton, Nov. 22.-Senator Burrows, of Michigan, expresses the opinion that there will be a protracted discussion of the currency question durng the approaching session of Congress, and that in all probability Congress will be in session until

August.

"In addition to the routine business of Congress, appropriations, etc.," he said, "the Hawaiian question will be disposed of and consideration will be given to the currency question, immisration and a few other things. As to the Cuban question, the situation is very peculiar. There appears to be a great deal of confusion with relation to the adoption of a new policy by Spain, and I don't think Congress ought to act until an opportunity has been had to determine what will result from Blanco's undertaking.

been had to determine what of the cost undertaking.

"I think," he added, "that the most perplexing thing that confronts us is how to handle the currency question. It is obvious that this question is going to come up for discussion, and it is equally obvious that it will lead to a protracted debate. I am very uncertain what it will result in."

FOURTEEN MOONSHINERS CAPTURED.

BREAKING UP A MURDEROUS BAND IN THE AR-

Washington, Nov. 22.-Commissioner Forman, the Internal Revenue Bureau, to-day received a telegram from Little Rock, Ark., stating that Revenue Agent Clark had returned with his posse from a raid through Scott and Polk Counties, Arkansas, with fourteen prisoners and a quantity of contraband goods. Six illicit stills were destroyed. Some weeks ago three agents of the Department of Justice were found dead in the Arkansas mountains, and circumstances seemed to indicate that they were murdered by "moon-shiners." A large party, composed of revenue officers and agents of the Department of Justice, proceeded immediately to the scene of the tragedy with the result stated. Revenue Agent Clark had returned with his posse

GOTIATIONS. IN ORDER TO STOP PELAGIC SEALING THE UNITED STATES WILL CONSENT TO THE CON-

DITION IMPOSED BY CANADA AND GREAT BRITAIN, AND WILL SUS-PEND SEALING ON THE ISL-ANDS FOR A YEAR.

Washington, Nov. 22 .- One of the most important features of the Behring Sea negotiations not heretofore disclosed is that, in case Great Britain and Canada consent to a suspension of pelagic sealing for one year, the United States at the same time will agree to a suspension of all killing of seals for one year on the Pribyloff Islands, constituting the American seal possessions in Behring Sea. As the Islands are a part of the United States territory, no question has ever arisen heretofore as to the right of the United States to do as it chose as to the seals on land and within three miles of the shore, the three miles being a part of the islands according to international law.

During the recent negotiations the Canadians took the ground that if any suspension was to occur it would be inequitable to ask them to suspend sealing in the outer waters while at the same time the United States persisted in sealing in the inner waters and on land. The contention of the United States was primarily for the suspension of pelagic sealing, but unsuit for damages, were intimate friends and der the exigency of the case it was felt that if a suspension of pelagic sealing could be secured it would be reasonable to concede a similar suspension within our own territory. It was in this form that the final propositions took

The American proposition includes the Pribyloff Islands in the proposed one-year suspension, so that if Canada agrees to the suspension it

and O'Connor, whom he had met by appointment at Twenty-eighth-st, and Sixth-ave. Woodward also denied that he had ever seen Ward or knew such a man. He was apparently very frank in his statements about himself.

"How many times have you been arrested?"
asked Assistant District-Attorney Carpenter.
"I am thirty-seven years old and I have been arrested thirty-seven times, but I have never been convicted, and this is the first time that I have ever been tried."

"How do you account for that?"

so that if Canada agrees to the suspension it will apply to those islands as well as to the high seas. The proposition follows the recommendation of the Paris Court of Arbitration, which suggested a temporary suspension of sealing on land and sea.

This brings up the question of the lease of the North American Commercial Company, giving it the exclusive right to take seals on the Pribyloff Islands. The lease was made in 1890 for a term of twenty years. Under it the company has taken about sixteen thousand seals annually on the islands. The lease stipulated that not more than sixty theusand should be taken in 1891, and also provided that no more annually on the islands. The lease supulated that not more than sixty thousand should be taken in 1891, and also provided that no more seals should be killed annually than the number authorized by the Secretary of the Treasury. As the catch has been far short of the expected sixty thousand, a question has arisen as to the obligation of the company to have its rental reduced pro rata. Attorney-General Miller gave an opinion in favor of the reduction. Secretary Olney, when Attorney-General, gave an opinion against it. By mutual consent a test case was made up and is now pending in the United States Supreme Court. The lease provides for a rental of \$60,000 a year, also \$7.62\for each sealskin taken and shipped from the islands, and certain tax payments and accommodations for the natives.

In the event of an agreement between the United States, Great Britain and Canada, the rights of the company to take seals necessarily

United States, Great Britain and Canada, the rights of the company to take seals necessarily would terminate for a year. It is said that the right of eminent domain gives the Government authority for vacating the lease for this period without reference to the wishes of the company. But aside from this it is understood that the company would not stand on any technical rights, but would consider the concession granted by Canada of such great advantage in the preservation of the seals as to warrant a suspension on the Pribyloft Islands during the stipulated one year.

DAMAGES FOR CANADIAN SEALERS. RUSSIA AGREES TO PAY \$40,000 FOR SEIZING TWO VESSELS.

Hallfax, N. S., Nov. 22. The British schooners Willie MacGowan and Ariel, the former owned in North Sydney, C. B., were seized and condemned by the Russian authorities in Behring Sea in 1802 for alleged infraction of sealing regulations. As from land when selzed and ould not, therefore, be held to be in territorial James R. Day, the chancellor. Not only the students but the religious folks of Syracuse are interested in the chancellor's remarks pertaining to football and the chancellor's remarks pertaining to football and the theatre. Dr. Day is a Methodist. In speaking of football he said:

"I believe that some such game as football, which contains elements of roughness and danger, is necessary to the development of many young men in university and seminary. Its future is tending toward a more open playing of the game. I do to doubt the record waters, the Canadian Government had acknowledged the illegality of the Government had acknowledged the ille

NIXON MAY BE DEPOSED.

A RUMOR OF NEW LEADERSHIP IN THE AS-SEMBLY OF 1896

Rochester, Nov. 22 .- It has been whispered around here for the last three or four days that S. Fred Nixon, of Chautauqua, who was chairman Assembly Committee on Ways and Means and Republican leader on the floor in the Assembly of 1897, was to have opposition for leader in the Assembly of 1898. It is hinted that Assemblyman J. P. Allds, of Chenango County, who had charge of the excise measures in the Assembly in 1896 and 1897, and Assemblyman Henry Marshall, of Kings, are both aspirants for the leadership. Both are strong with the State leaders, and both have induential friends, who are able to bring considerable pressure to bear in their behalf. Allds is urging pressure to bear in their behalf. Alids is urging that he is entitled to reward, because he has stood up to the rack on the excise question.

Speaker O'Grady, who will probably preside over the Assembly of 1898, was asked to-day about the rumor that Nixon was to be supplanted as leader, but he declined to say anything for publication.

Mr. Nixon said in Albany last week that he was a "possive" candidate for the Speakership, and might become "active."

LIEUTENANT JACOBS'S HOME BURNED.

A HANDSOME HOUSE ON THE EASTERN SHORE

OF VIRGINIA DESTROYED. Newport News, Va., Nov. 22.—A private telegram received here this evening from Northampton County, on the eastern shore of Virginia, states hat the handsome colonial residence of Lieutenant Edwin S. Jacobs, United States Navy, retired, was burned to the ground about 9 o'clock this morning. Lieutenant Jacobs estimates his loss at about \$75,000. The Lieutenant and his daughter, Miss Elizabeth The Lieutenant and his daughter, Miss Elizabeth Jacobs, were at breakfast when the fire broke out in the sitting-room. The entire mansion was soon enveloped in flames, and it was but a short time before the long rows of stock stables and outbuildings were ablaze. The lieutenant's score of full-blooded horses were rescued from the burning stables, but many of his fine cows were burned to death.

death.

Miss Mary Stockett Jacobs, who is in the city, said to-night that her father carried only \$6,000 insurance on his home. "Morton" is known everywhere as the most valuable of Virginia's colonial estates. It fronts on the Chesapeake Bay and commands a full view for many miles of this broad expanse of water. Lieutenant Jacobs had said that he would not accept \$75,000 for his handsome home and valuable collection of books and relics. The lieutenant was injured while on duty at the China station, and was retired in 1886.

A POTSDAM BANKER INDICTED.

LUNE USHER ACCUSED OF WRECKING THE IN-STITUTION OF WHICH HE WAS PRESIDENT. STITUTION OF WHICH HE WAS PRESIDENT.

Gouverneur, N. Y., Nov. 22 (Special).—The United States Grand Jury at Auburn on Saturday handed in a sealed indictment against Luke Usher, of Potsdam, president of the National bank of that place, which failed on January 25. There are eleven counts in the indictment, charging Usher with wrecking the bank and misappropriating several hundred thousand dollars. eral hundred thousand dollars.

At the time of the suspension it was believed that At the time of the suspension it was believed that the trouble was only temporary. Usher has been regarded as one of the leading business men of St. Lawrence County. He has been a large lumber operator, and has been engaged in the pulp and paper business. He was one of the organizers of the High Falls Sulphite Pulp and Paper Company and of the Piorcefeld Paper and Mining Company, and of the Piorcefeld Paper and Mining Company, and of the Piorcefeld Paper and Mining Company, and the supposed that he borrowed money largely from the bank of which he was president to keep up these two concerns. The bank was looked upon as the strongest north of the Central Railroad. It had been established for half a century, and the deposits were \$600,000.

At 8 o'clock to-night Mr. Usher had not yet been arrested.

PALISADES MAY BE SAVED.

NEW-JERSEY OFFICIALS TO TAKE AC-TION AGAINST THE SPOLIATORS.

LONG PENDING SUITS FOR VIOLATION OF THE ENCOURAGING SIGNS THAT SOME STRONG SENTI-LAW OF 18% TO BE MOVED IN THE CHANCERY COURT TO-DAY.

Trenton, N. J., Nov. 22 (Special).-For more than a year suits have been pending in the Court of Chencery to enjoin Brown & Fleming. John A. Trainor and Carpenter Brothers, quarrymen, from destroying the Palisades. These suits were brought by the State, through ex-Attorney- | gains in strength every day. It is noteworthy General John P. Stockton, but in addition to the suit instituted by the State there have been pending numerous civil suits, brought by individuals who reside on the Palisades and who claim damages from the quarry firms by reason of injury to their properties and the general nuisance of the continuous blasting.

Brown & Fleming and J. A. Trainor are operating under a lease obtained from the Riparian Commissioners, since the enactment of the law of 1895, and the general expectation is that the courts will promptly declare that these firms have violated not only the spirit but the letter of the lease under which the Riparian Commission gave them the privilege to lands under the water along the Palisades. These firms have been quarrying what is called "talis," which is coose rock at the foot of the cliffs. Carpenter Brothers, who claim a right to the lands, under a lease made prior to 1895, have not stopped at removing the "talls," but are destroying the

In an interview with Attorney-General Grey to-day, Riparian Commissioner Cloke inquired why the suits against the contractors had not een pushed. Mr. Cloke said that the residents along the Palisades were intimating that the suits had been "hung up" for a purpose. He told the Attorney-General that quarrymen were daily disfiguring the Palisades, and he expressed his desire for immediate action. Attorney-General Grey told the Commissioner that he had no knowledge of such suits, but on investigation he found the statement to be correct, and at once gave notice that the suits would be

Commissioner Cloke, in an interview to-day, said that the lease under which Brown & Fleming, and John A. Trainor operated gave them the privilege of removing certain loose rock which had crumbled at the top and fallen from the cliffs, but instead of this, the quarrymen had abused their privilege. He further declared that the incoming Legislature would be asked to so amend the act of 1895 that it would be impossible to misconstrue it. Pending the amendment of the law, no new lease will be granted. Of the eleven miles of the Palisades, only 600 feet are being worked by quarrymen. The law under which the Riparian Commis-

sion is empowered to lease lands under the waters of the Hudson River, reads as follows: Be it enacted by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New-Jersey, that hereafter the Riparian Commissioners shall not make any lease, grant or conveyance of any lands lying under the waters of the Hudson River, adjacant to or in front of the Palisades or adjacent to or in front of the strip of land between the base of the Pallsades and the lands between the base of the Palisades and the lands under water, unless there be inserted in the lease, grant or conveyance such terms, condi-tions, restrictions and limitations as will, so far as possible, forever thereafter preserve unbroken the uniformity and continuity of the Palisades, and also, so far as possible, prevent the lands leased, granted or conveyed from being in any way used or devoted to injurious or destructive leased, granted or conveyed from being in any way used or devoted to injurious or deave work or operations against the Palisades or in connection with or for the encouragement, aid or promotion of injurious or destructive work of any kind against the Palisades.

TO BE LAUNCHED TOGETHER.

THE KEARSARGE AND KENTUCKY WILL TAKE THE WATER ABOUT THE MIDDLE

OF JANUARY.

Newport News, Va., Nov. 22 (Special).-The story sent out from this city to the effect that the launching of the battle-ship Kearsarge would be delayed, owing to the fact that the shipyard in-spectors had detected flaws in the rudder forge castings sent here for that ship by the Cleveland City Forge Company, is without foundation. It is the intention of the shipyard officials to obtain the consent of the Navy Department to substitute the rudder forge casting intended for the battle-ship Illinois, of practically the same design. confident that the required permission can be obconfisent that the required permission can be ob-tained, and that there will be no hitch in the launching of the battle-ships Kentucky and Kear-sarge within a few minutes of each other about the middle of January. The local shipyard holds the record for the first tandem launching, and will break another American record when the two big battle-ships are launched on the same day.

DISCORD IN LITTLE FALLS.

THE MAYOR SAYS HE WILL REMOVE FOUR POLICE

Little Falls, N. Y., Nov. 22.-Mayor Dasey, of this place, to-day asked for the resignations of the four city Police and Fire Commissioners on account of alleged neglect of duty in failing to hold meetings.
Three of the Commissioners refused to resign, and
the Mayor says he will remove them when the new
Common Council takes office on January 1. The
present Council is opposed to the Mayor. The new
one will support him.

FALL RIVER OFFICIALS INDICTED.

THE GRAND JURY ARRAIGNS TWO COUNCILMEN FOR SOLICITING BRIBES.

Taunton, Mass., Nov. 22.-The Grand Jury was convened in special session here to-day, to consider the cases of W. Shay and Frank Ford, Common Councilmen of Fall River, who are under bonds councilmen of Fail River, who are under bonds pending action on charges of attempting to solicit bribes in return for their influence in obtaining contracts for furnishing the Hicks School, of this city. The Grand Jury returned indictments on three counts against each of the defendants.

PATIENT DIES IN A DENTIST'S CHAIK.

BUT THE CORONER'S JURY FINDS THAT THE DET

Amsterdam, N. Y., Nov. 22—Harry Crosman, twenty-eight years old, a resident of Hagaman, died to-day from the effects of chloroform administered by a dentist named Caldwell, for the pur-

pose of extracting teeth. The Coroner's jury returned a verdict that he came to his death from heart failure, superinduced by the administration of chloroform, and exonerated the dentist from all blame.

WOODWORKING CONCERNS UNITE.

FOURTEEN FIRMS COMBINE, WITH A CAPITAL OF \$8,500,000.

Philadelphia, Nov. 22.-A dispatch from Williams port, Penn., says: "The American Woodworking Machinery Company has just been organized, and Machinery Company has just been organized, and will control fourteen concerns manufacturing seveneighths of the woodworking machinery produced in the United States. The men at the head of the combine have been working for a long time to reach the point that was attained on Saturday in this city. On Saturday night the local companies of the city. On Saturday night the local companies of the combine closed their plants, and no work will be

combine closed their plants, and no work will be done in any of them until next week. This week will be devoted to taking an inventory of the plants and stock on hand. The local members of the combine are Rowley & Hermance, the Williamsport Machine Company, the Lehman Machine Company and Young Brothers. Levi Houston, of Montgomery, is also a member.

The capital of the organization is \$5,500,000. The nine other firms that have pooled their issues are Goodell & Walthers, Philadelphia; Glencoe Machine Company, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Hoyt Brothers, Aurora, Ill.; Globe Machine Company, Chicago; Fague & Co., Cincinnati, E. & B. Hayes Machinery Company, Oshkosh, Wis.; Frank Clements, Rochester, N. Y.; C. B. Rogers Company, Norwich; Milwaukee Bander Company, Green Bay, Wis.

AGAINST PARTY DICTATORS.

CONFERENCES OF REPUBLICANS WHO

WANT LEADERSHIP THAT WILL WIN.

MENT EXISTS IN THE ORGANIZATION AGAINST THE PRESENT DEMORAL-

IZING STATE OF AFFAIRS. The movement which was started soon after

the election, when the returns from the ballot on November 2 showed the effects of the demoralizing leadership of the machine managers, that the steps now being taken by Republicans to purfly the party and to put it in a position to win instead of losing elections are being directed largely by members of the regular organization. Several meetings were held last night to promote this movement. One of them was held at the Hotel Endicott, where the district leaders of the XXIst Assembly District met and appointed a committee to confer with similar committees from other districts. About one hundred and fifty men were present, and they were all enrolled Republicans. Another meeting in the form of a dinner was held in the rooms of the Uptown Association in the Constable Building, at the invitation of James S. Barcus. The whole situation was discussed, with a view to devising means to put new life into the party. They thought the best way to do this was to get rid of Quigg. The Republicans who form the organization, under the leadership of General Wager Swayne and William Brookfield, had a meeting in Lyric Hall, and decided to call a meeting for Tuesday next at the same place of five representatives from each Assembly district. A new constitution will be drafted, and immediate steps will be taken to enlarge the membership of the organization and broaden its influence. A remarkable feature of last night's gatherings was the large attendance in each instance. That such large numbers of men should have gone to these meetings so soon after the long and arduous campaign that has just ended is taken as an encouraging indication that the feeling as to the necessity of reorganizing the Republican party in this city is earnest and

THE HOTEL ENDICOTT CONFERENCE, ACTION TAKEN BY A LARGE NUMBER OF ENROLLED REPUBLICANS.

"No political party can live which is don by the iron hand of a single man."

widespread.

"Republican ism was a principle long before the men who are now attempting to control it in this city ever came into prominence, and it will survive the attempts made by these few men to control it, and Phœnix-like, it will come forth from this fire of bossism a new and more pow-

erful creation." Thee words showed the feeling of the Republicans who attended a conference at the Hotel Endicott last night. The meeting was convened by the following call issued to the Republican voters of the XXIst Assembly District.

voters of the XXIst Assembly District.

November 19, 1897.

Dear Sir: The result of the recent election has made it apparent that the Republican organization in this Assembly district is not able to poil the larger part of the Republican vote. The condition is one which requires serious consideration, so that

Ism.

In order that effective steps may be taken to accomplish this end, you are requested to attend a conference of Republicans of the district, to be held on Monday, November 22, 1897, at 8 p. m., at the Hotel Endicott, entrance No. 102 West Eighty-second-st. Yours very truly JUDSON LAWSCN, JOHN B SHAW, JUDSON LAWSCN, JOHN B SHAW, JAMES S. LEHMAIER, FRANK C. LANGLEY, WM. M. BENNETT.

L. WINTERS, E. C. DUSENBURY.

About one hundred and fifty prominent voters

About one hundred and fifty prominent voters of the district were on hand long before the hour of the meeting. Every one present from the district was a regularly enrolled Re can, under the enrolment made last June, and each man maintained his adherence to Republican principles. The meeting was presided over by James S. Lehmaier. The object of the meeting was explained to those who had answered the call as not for the purpose of fighting any one man, but to act so that in the future the district would be made what it had been in the past, Republican, and it was asserted that in order to obtain that end it was necessary to devise a method by which the

necessary to devise a method by which the voters would have an opportunity to express their preferences at free and unrestricted primaries. Philip Bloch, William M. Bennett, Frank C. Largley, Judson Lawson and Joseph S. Whiteside were among those of the district who made speeches on the subject of the purification of the Republican party.

By invitation Francis E. Laimbeer, Assembly man-elect of the XXVIIth District, and James Yereance, of the XXIXth District, were present and addressed the meeting. They both discovered the necessity of organizing those who were antagonistic to foreign rule of local politics, and urged a systematic move to purpe the rolls of the Republican party. In closing his speech Mr. Yereance said:

"In one of the election districts of this city a dog was enrolled as a legal Republican voter.

"In one of the election districts of this city a dog was enrolled as a legal Republican voter. We have discovered that fact, but no one knows how many pupples have sprung into existence since that enrolment was made and the campaign begun and ended."

After the speeches were made a committee consisting of William H. Rockwood, F. C. Langley, S. P. Carmichael, William M. Bennett and J. S. Lehmaier was appointed to confer with like committees from other Assembly districts as to the future plan of action of those Republicans who believe in the purity of the party. A committee with Philip Bloch as chairman was also appointed to outline a plan of action in the district.

district.

No date was set for the next meeting, that matter being left in the hands of the chairman with the understanding that a meeting would be held as soon as the committees appointed.

be held as soon as the committees appointed were ready to report.

After the meeting the chairman made the following statement: "We do not intend to show hostility to any one man, but we do know that a Tammany Alderman and a Tammany Assemblyman were elected in our district. We want this to be a Republican district, as it should be, and our meeting was to get an expression of opinion as to the best course to pursue. What is wisest we will do, and do that in such a way as to make it a success."

THEY WANT QUIGG DEPOSED. ACTION OF THE LEADERS AT JAMES & BARCUS'S DINNER

The dinner given for the organization Repub licans of the XXIst Assembly District by James S. Barcus in the rooms of the Uptown Association in the Constable Building, Fifth-ave. and Eighteenth-st., last night was attended by about fifty district leaders and prominent Republicans of that section. It developed into a strong anti-Quigg meeting, and Mr. Barcus's criticism of Mr. Quigg was heartily applauded. The meeting was called to devise some way by which Mr. Quigg could be defeated for re-election as chairman of the County Committee. After the dinner Mr. Barcus arose and announced that he was an organization Republican, always had been and always would be; that he was carrying on a war within the ranks. It was not a war upon personality or individuality, but was a contest for the best interest of the party. He said that he had no quarrel with Mr. Quigg, but that he felt that fully 90 per cent of the Republican voters who went to the support of Mr. Low did so because they opposed Mr. Quigg. He continued:

Our object is to secure harmony of action and purpose in the Republican party. Harmony in the organization may be as it was in the late campaign, merely an ominous dead calm, which for their own health and comfort those who have not had part in harmonising the organization carefully avoid. Leaders, who would be little kings, have